

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A polyarylene sulfide resin having an index of coupling reactivity at 320°C of 2.0 or less,
the amount of SO₂ generated from the resin at 300°C being 0.02 mg/g or less.
2. (Original) A process for producing a polyarylene sulfide resin according to claim 1, the process comprising polymerizing a polyfunctional halogenated aromatic compound with lithium sulfide in a non-protonic organic solvent.
3. (Original) A process for producing a polyarylene sulfide resin according to claim 2, the process further comprising washing the polymer in a molten state after the polymerization.
4. (Original) A process for producing a polyarylene sulfide according to claim 3, the process further comprising adding a silane based coupling agent to the washed polymer and melt-kneading the mixture.
5. (Original) A polyarylene sulfide resin composition comprising a polyarylene sulfide resin according to claim 1 and an inorganic filler.
6. (Original) A polyarylene sulfide resin composition according to claim 5, the composition further comprising a silane based coupling agent.

7. (Currently amended) A process for producing a polyarylene sulfide resin composition according to claim 6, the process comprising:

- blending a polyarylene sulfide resin ~~according to claim 1~~ with an inorganic filler;
- melt-kneading the mixture; and
- adding a silane based coupling agent at the time of the melt-kneading.